

**HANDOUTS**

- December 2018 meeting minutes

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 8:37 am by Dante Bryant, Criminal Justice Services Research and Planning Manager.**

**Welcome**

Chief Kevin Black of the Cornelius Police Department was welcomed by Dante Bryant and the CJAG members in attendance.

**Agenda Item 1:** Approval of December 2018 Minutes

***Discussion:*** December 2018 CJAG meeting minutes presented. No corrections identified. December minutes approved as presented unanimously.

**Agenda Item 2:** Revised Bail Policy Presentation

***Discussion:*** Chief District Court Judge Regan Miller and Public Defender Kevin Tully thanked Resident Superior Court Judge Bob Bell for his leadership on this subcommittee and his issuance of the new bail policy, which will go into effect on March 1. Judge Miller shared that the notable changes to the policy include eliminating the guideline table of ranges of financial conditions of release, colloquially referred to as the bond schedules, and the added emphasis on the use of risk assessment data and Pretrial Services as factors to consider in release decisions. Kevin Tully shared his thanks for the commitment of the agencies who participated on the subcommittee and clarified that the new policy clarifies local practices to be more in line with North Carolina statute.

District Court Judge Elizabeth Trosch presented to the members present a proposal for supporting implementation of the new policy and practice changes to ensure successful implementation. This proposal included the use of resources to assist court officials who are responsible for practice changes within their agencies and peers to assist with implementing practice change through methods such as peer to peer coaching and peer training. Judge Trosch also proposed hiring an implementation specialist to be housed within the Trial Court Administrator's Office who would be responsible for monitoring implementation through data, monitor barriers to implementation, create and facilitate feedback loops, provide progress reports to the key court officials on regular intervals, and coordinate education, peer coaching, and consultation with the goal of helping to move the ideology and buy-in for new practices from agency executives to front line staff. Additionally, Judge Trosch's proposal included the development of an e-learning platform that would allow for multiple avenues of content and communication across the justice system agencies. Judge Trosch shared that this proposal will be submitted to the Safety + Justice Challenge Core team for consideration at their next meeting at the end of February.

District Attorney Spencer Merriweather shared that his charge to his ADAs is to be intentional when making release or detain arguments in court. He shared that the PSA risk scores are not perfect, particularly in cases of domestic violence, the new bail policy does include consideration of lethality factors for the court to consider when making release or detain decisions in cases of domestic violence. DA Merriweather also shared that implementation of his new policy will require more attention and time from Judges and attorneys in court to paint a deeper picture of the individual in court hearings.

**Agenda Item 3:** Open Discussion

***Discussion:*** DA Merriweather shared that critical discussions are necessary regarding CJAG functionality in light of attendance at this meeting, given that all but one member in attendance has either been part of the bail policy workgroup or has been involved in

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conversations throughout the development of the new bail policy. The question to be answered is how to do we get everyone to participate in CJAG and the concerns raised are that changes are being considered and made by this body, but when members don't attend, their voices are not able to be included in discussions of the CJAG.

**MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:24 am.**

Criminal Justice Advisory Group

February 12, 2019

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Kevin Black	Chief, Cornelius Police
Dante Bryant	CJS Research and Planning
Rodney Collins	Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office
Katy Fitzgerald	CJS Research and Planning
Spencer Merriweather	District Attorney
Regan Miller	Chief District Court Judge
Khalif Rhodes	Chief Magistrate
Kevin Tully	Public Defender